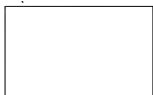


THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

3 MAY 1962

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Sino-Indian border
dispute heating up



The Chinese Communists, in character, have reacted sharply to Indian Army attacks on their outposts in northern Ladakh by charging aggression and demanding that the Indians withdraw. Peiping has also put Delhi on notice that Chinese forces in Ladakh had been ordered to "resume" patrol activity, and that it is contemplating similar action along the entire frontier. Nehru yesterday had already reacted strongly to a previous Chinese note and public indignation over the latest Chinese charges will probably cause him to dig in his heels with a vengeance. More--and bigger--clashes between Indian and Chinese forces are likely. 50X1

2. Americans in South
Vietnam



a. Whatever their reasons for releasing Sergeants Quinn and Groom, the Viet Cong are making the most, propaganda-wise, out of the affair. Hanoi is saying that the two were "pardoned" as an earnest of the "humanitarian policy" of the Communist-controlled South Vietnam liberation front. 50X1

b. Recently captured documents reveal that the Viet Cong have instructed at least some of its people to pick fights with Americans in order to "show the world that US troops are actually fighting in Vietnam."

3. Algeria



Algerian leaders, their tempers running dangerously close to the breaking point, have officially put responsibility directly on the French for the continuing OAS atrocities. They appear to be making a last ditch effort to keep the damper on the outbreak of large-scale Moslem reprisals as well as to head off demands that Algerian forces take matters into their own hands.

50X1

4. Burmese Government policy announced



General Ne Win has unfolded a rambling 28-point program billed as a "Burmese way to Socialism." Although chock-full of Communist-style clichés promising state control of practically everything in sight for the good of the people, it actually does not go beyond the goals already set forth in the constitution and subscribed to by all government leaders since Burma became independent in 1948. Stripped of its gobbledygook, Ne Win's program boils down to a declaration advising the Burmese that henceforth they will be living under an authoritarian, narrowly nationalistic government of the army, by the army--and perhaps primarily for the army.

50X1

5. Portugal



a. A post-mortem of the 1 May uprisings in Lisbon and Oporto bodes ill for the future serenity of the Salazar regime. By all accounts, the demonstrators were not only well organized, but showed courage and determination in facing up to the no-holds-barred tactics used by the police. They are thus likely to come back another day for a return engagement--possibly on 8 May, when more demonstrations are reportedly being planned for both cities.

50X1

b. Growing jumpiness over Angola is indicated by Lisbon's tendency to accept at face value all sorts of wild reports of outside interference, including some alleging that UN forces in the Congo are supplying the nationalists with both men and material.

50X1

6. Nationalist China



Chargé Clough spent more than an hour yesterday urging Chinese Nationalist Vice President Ch'en Ch'eng to reconsider his government's intentions to raise and spend more money for military purposes, but got nowhere. Ch'en blandly minimized the amount of money involved, asserted that "no unnecessary" expenditures would be made, and claimed that the new tax measures had been carefully tailored to avoid any damage to Taiwan's economy. He was also evasive on the subject of coordinating military planning with the US.

50X1

7. Yugoslav-USSR relations



Their improvement is indicated by Yugoslavia's recent acquisition of Soviet military equipment (tanks and helicopters), something that has not happened since the big break. Belgrade officials have intimated that they are in the Soviet market for more hardware, but have sought to assure us that they are motivated entirely by economic reasons.

50X1

NOTES

- A. Pravda, noting the anniversary of the Laotian cease-fire (today), carried an interview with Prince Souphannouvong which was almost exclusively devoted to the old assertions that his side is as clean as a hound's tooth, and that Laos would have long since been happily reunited if it were not for the machinations of those American-supported rascals in Vientiane. []

50X1

50X1

- C. The present deployment of aircraft associated with the Soviet space program appears to point either to an imminent launching from Tyuratam, or to an effort to recover one or more of the three sections of Cosmos IV, which we know are still in orbit

50X1

- D. The contest for the Italian presidency should be settled today. At the moment, Foreign Minister Segni has the inside track.

50X1

LATE NOTE

Tshombé has temporarily postponed his trip to Leopoldville in order to hold preliminary discussions with UN Representative Gardiner. []

50X1

WATCH COMMITTEE CONCLUSIONS--2 May 1962

On the basis of findings by its Watch Committee, the United States Intelligence Board concludes that:

No Sino-Soviet Bloc country intends deliberately to initiate direct military action in the immediate future.

DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

I.

50X1

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE